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They consider that after the erection of such high power transmitter at a centrally situated point in Kerala, the Kozhikode Station of the All-India Radio cannot continue to function as it is, because the entire area will be effectively covered by the high power transmitter. However they have not yet decided as to what should be done with the Kozhikode Station of the All-India Radio. It is expected that the final selection of the site for locating the new transmitter will be settled in consultation with the State Government and the local cultural interests.''

Transfer of teachers employed by local bodies

* 761 *Q.*—Sri V. GOPALA GOUNDER : Will the Hon. the **Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state whether the Government will be pleased to place a copy of the Government Order issued to the President of District Boards and Commissioners of Municipal Councils regarding the appointment and transfer of teachers employed in the institutions concerned in consultation with the Employment Exchange Officers of the districts, on the table of the House?**

The Hon. Sri S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—'' Copies[a] of G.O. No. 25, L.A., dated 9th January 1954, and G.O. No. 883, L.A., dated 17th June 1954, are placed on the table of the House. The orders in these Government Orders do not apply to transfer of teachers.''

Sri V. GOPALA GOUNDER :—'' May I know from the Hon. Minister the meaning of the words ' local candidates ' occurring in paragraph 4 of the Government Order.''

The Hon. Sri S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—'' I want notice to answer this question.''

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE HON. SPEAKER.

MESSAGE FROM THE COUNCIL.

Mr. SPEAKER :—'' I have to announce to the House that I have received the following message, dated the 15th February 1955, from the Hon. the Chairman, Madras Legislative Council :—

' I transmit a copy of the following motion passed to-day by the Madras Legislative Council concurring with the Madras Legislative Assembly in setting up a Joint Select Committee of both the Chambers to consider the Madras Indebted Agriculturists (Repayment of Debts) Bill, 1955 (L.A. Bill No. 2 of 1955): —

" That this House concurs with the Assembly in setting up a Joint Select Committee of both the Houses consisting of 24 members (16 members of the Assembly and 8 members of the Council) to consider the Madras Indebted

[a] **Printed as Appendix III on pages 727–729 infra.**

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Agriculturists (Repayment of Debts) Bill, 1955 (L.A. Bill No. 2 of 1955) and that the following members of this House be selected to serve on such a Joint Select Committee :—

(1) Hon. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam.
(2) Sri P. P. Ummer Koya.
(3) Srimathi Jothi Venkatachellum.
(4) Sri S. P. Sivasubramania Nadar.
(5) Sri T. Purushothama Mudaliar.
(6) Sri A. Gajapathy Nayagar.
(7) Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar.
(8) Sri V. V. Ramaswami." ' "

III.—STATEMENT REGARDING UTILIZATION OF THE HANDLOOM CESS FUND.

Mr. Speaker :—" The Hon. Minister for Agriculture wants to make a statement."

* The Hon. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam :—" Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am obliged to you for permitting me to make this statement. I desire to make this statement in view of the large number of questions that have been put in this House about the utilization of the Handloom Cess Fund. Thanks to the liberal assistance of the Union Government, the Madras Government have undertaken several measures for the rehabilitation of the handloom industry in the Madras State. The Government of Madras have so far sanctioned a sum of Rs. 121 lakhs for the implementation of the various schemes for the benefit of the weavers organized in co-operative societies. For the years 1953–54 and 1954–55, the total share of this State from out of the Cess Fund is Rs. 216 lakhs and the Madras Government have submitted to the Government of India schemes estimated at Rs. 216 lakhs. So far, the Government of India have sanctioned schemes for Rs. 159 lakhs out of which the Government of Madras have sanctioned and taken up schemes for Rs. 221 lakhs. I may add that the first year was spent on attending to certain preliminaries regarding the utilization of the Cess Fund and the schemes were initiated practically in January 1954. The measures for the improvement of the handloom industry chiefly relate to the provision of share capital to members of co-operative societies, working capital to weavers' societies and the State Handloom Weavers' Society, provision of technical and improved appliances for the industry, expansion of marketing activities by way of opening of emporia, sales depots, etc., grant of rebate to consumers with a view to encourage purchases by the public. The scheme has been in operation in the State for about a year. As a result of the working of the schemes, the industry has shown signs of improvement. The weavers are able to get better wages and to find market for their goods. Before the introduction of the scheme, there were 566 weavers' co-operative societies with 97,642 looms. During the year, 212 societies were registered and 28,205 new looms were brought into the co-operative fold. At the end of the year, there were 778 societies with 125,847 looms in the co-operative fold. The number of looms brought into the co-operative fold has increased by 28 per cent. The members